

"Dear Mr. President", New York, New York, January or February 1942

AFS 6414A

Cut A1

Man born in Philadelphia: [*airplane in background*] All right, ladies and gentlemen—

Interviewer: [*speaks softly to him*]

Man born in Philadelphia: - Yeah. Mr. President, I was born in Philadelphia, outside of Philadelphia. My mother was born in Canadian French. My father was from the yellow tribe, Indian, the American Indian. And I'm glad and happy to say that I am an American amongst our fellow brothers. We all are brothers. Let us remain brothers, don't care what creed are you or what color or who you are or where you come from. We all are American and let's fight for American and our brothers that is outside. Let's die American. If we have to go on the battlefield, let's die American. Our foremothers and fathers died and we must do the same to keep our freedom and liberty and our own brothers must worship any religion that ???. Thank you, Mr. President.

Cut A2

Charles Alexander: Mr. President, I'm Charles Alexander of 772 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City, the colored neighborhoods, Harlem. I just like to express a few points about the present situation. I was born in Jamaica, British West Indies, and served a year and a half in the Canadian forces, but my duties mostly confined to guard duty. I have been employed with the National Electric Type Company in New York City. That is, making printing plates. The war has affected our industry in respect of metals. You see, we'll be short of metals on account of the war, copper especially, lead, tin foil which we use in our business and already quite a few of our men are out of work since, say two weeks before Christmas.

Well, as far as I'm concerned I think I'll be able to do something besides electric typing in case I get laid off. Of course, I wouldn't like to get laid off, but I'm handy with tools and can do pipe fitting all that ???. I'll try to find something else to do. And of course, if the inevitable comes, that is I have to go, although I'm over the age, why I'd be glad to serve the United States of America.

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